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Hispanic Heritage Month

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JAMES H. BILLINGTON
Librarian of Congress

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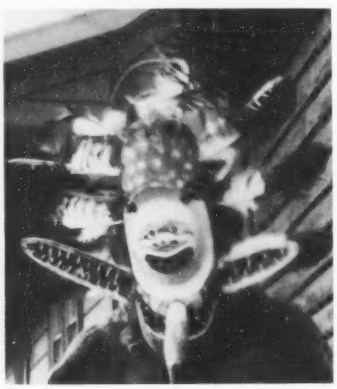

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A Change of Scene:

Librarian Announces 1994 National Film Registry in New York

Dr. Billington announced annual selections of 25 films to the National Film Registry at a press conference Nov. 14 at the Museum of Modern Art (MOMA) in New York.

"My emphasis, when making these decisions, has been, as Congress directed . . . to compile a list worthy of the rich, vibrant diversity of American cinema, including both motion picture 'blue-bloods,' the Hollywood classics, as well as motion picture 'orphans,' including independent and avant-garde works," he told the news conference attendees.

It was the first time in the six-year history of the Registry that the Librarian has traveled outside of Washington to make the announcement, which coincided with the National Film Preservation Board meeting, held this year at MOMA. The film board advises the Librarian of Congress on the selection of films as well as on national film preservation policy.

This year, Dr. Billington also announced another first: Beginning in April, the Library will launch a nationwide tour of selected National Film Registry titles, with stops in nine cities and, it is hoped, in each of the 50 states.

"As the famed New York philosopher and film critic Yogi Berra might have said, 'This tour will go places,'" Dr. Billington joked. "It will allow the public to experience motion pictures as they were intended to be seen—projected before an audience onto a large screen in a darkened theater."

Under the terms of the National Film Preservation Act, the Librarian names 25 films to the National Film Registry each year. The preservation act, when renewed in 1992, produced a study that "persuasively demonstrated a film heritage in danger [because, among other reasons] both old and new films face inevitable destruction—old films from nitrate deterioration, and newer films from the merciless onset of color fading and sound track decay," Dr. Billington said.

The National Film Registry is designed to reflect the full range and diversity of the American film heritage. The films are first reviewed by the public, members of the National Film Preservation Board and the Library's motion picture staff in conjunction with the Librarian. The films are judged to be "culturally, historically or aesthetically" significant. The announcement brings the total number of films on the list to 150. They are, latest selections first:

Robert DeNiro waits to pick up a fare in "Taxi Driver," one of the 25 films added to the 1994 National Film Registry.

☐ "The African Queen" (1951)
☐ "The Apartment" (1960)
☐ "The Cool World" (1963)
☐ "A Corner in Wheat" (1909)
☐ "E.T. The Extra-Terrestrial" (1982)
☐ "The Exploits of Elaine" (1914)
☐ "Force of Evil" (1948)
☐ "Freaks" (1932)
☐ "Hell's Hinges" (1916)
☐ "The Hospital" (1970)
☐ "Invasion of the Body Snatchers" (1956)
☐ "The Lady Eve" (1941)
☐ "Louisiana Story" (1948)
☐ "The Manchurian Candidate" (1962)
☐ "Marty" (1955)
☐ "Meet Me in St. Louis" (1944)
☐ "Midnight Cowboy" (1969)
☐ "A Movie" (1958)
☐ "Pinocchio" (1940)
☐ "Safety Last" (1923)
☐ "Scarface" (1932)
☐ "Snow White" (1933)
☐ "Tabu" (1931)
☐ "Taxi Driver" (1976)
☐ Zapruder Film [footage of President Kennedy's assassination] (1963)

National Film Registry 1989–1993

☐ "Adam's Rib" (1949)
☐ "All About Eve" (1950)
☐ "All Quiet on the Western Front" (1930)
☐ "An American in Paris" (1951)
☐ "Annie Hall" (1977)

☐ "Badlands" (1973)
☐ "The Bank Dick" (1940)
☐ "The Battle of San Pietro" (1945)
☐ "The Best Years of Our Lives" (1946)
☐ "Big Business" (1929)
☐ "The Big Parade" (1925)
☐ "The Birth of a Nation" (1915)
☐ "The Black Pirate" (1926)
☐ "Blade Runner" (1982)
☐ "The Blood of Jesus" (1941)
☐ "Bonnie and Clyde" (1967)
☐ "Bringing Up Baby" (1938)
☐ "Carmen Jones" (1954)
☐ "Casablanca" (1942)
☐ "Castro Street" (1966)
☐ "Cat People" (1942)
☐ "The Cheat" (1915)
☐ "Chinatown" (1974)
☐ "Chulas Fronteras" (1976)
☐ "Citizen Kane" (1941)
☐ "City Lights" (1931)
☐ "The Crowd" (1928)
☐ "David Holzman's Diary" (1968)
☐ "Detour" (1946)
☐ "Dodsworth" (1936)
☐ "Dog Star Man" (1964)
☐ "Double Indemnity" (1944)
☐ "Dr. Strangelove (Or, How I Learned to Stop Worrying and Love the Bomb)" (1964)
☐ "Duck Soup" (1933)
☐ "Eaux d'Artifice" (1953)
☐ "Fantasia" (1940)
☐ "Footlight Parade" (1933)
☐ "Frankenstein" (1931)
☐ "The Freshman" (1925)
☐ "The General" (1927)
☐ "Gertie the Dinosaur" (1914)
☐ "Gigi" (1958)
☐ "The Godfather" (1972)
☐ "The Godfather, Part II" (1974)
☐ "The Gold Rush" (1925)
☐ "Gone with the Wind" (1939)
☐ "The Grapes of Wrath" (1940)
☐ "The Great Train Robbery" (1903)
☐ "Greed" (1924)
☐ "Harlan County, U.S.A." (1976)
☐ "High Noon" (1952)
☐ "High School" (1968)
☐ "His Girl Friday" (1940)
☐ "How Green Was My Valley" (1941)
☐ "I Am a Fugitive from a Chain Gang" (1932)
☐ "Intolerance" (1916)
☐ "It Happened One Night" (1934)
☐ "It's a Wonderful Life" (1946)
☐ "The Italian" (1915)
☐ "Killer of Sheep" (1977)
☐ "King Kong" (1933)
☐ "Lassie Come Home" (1943)
☐ "Lawrence of Arabia" (1962)
☐ "The Learning Tree" (1969)
☐ "Letter from an Unknown Woman" (1948)
☐ "Love Me Tonight" (1932)
☐ "Magical Maestro" (1952)
☐ "The Magnificent Ambersons" (1942)

Humphrey Bogart takes a nip aboard "The African Queen."

Betsy Blair and Ernest Borgnine star in "Marty."

☐ "The Maltese Falcon" (1941)
☐ "March of Time: Inside Nazi Germany–1938" (1938)
☐ "Meshes of the Afternoon" (1943)
☐ "Modern Times" (1936)
☐ "Morocco" (1930)
☐ "Mr. Smith Goes to Washington" (1939)
☐ "My Darling Clementine" (1946)
☐ "Nanook of the North" (1922)
☐ "Nashville" (1975)
☐ "A Night at the Opera" (1935)
☐ "The Night of the Hunter" (1955)
☐ "Ninotchka" (1939)
☐ "Nothing but a Man" (1964)
☐ "On the Waterfront" (1954)
☐ "One Flew over the Cuckoo's Nest" (1975)
☐ "Out of the Past" (1947)
☐ "Paths of Glory" (1957)
☐ "A Place in the Sun" (1951)
☐ "Point of Order" (1964)
☐ "The Poor Little Rich Girl" (1917)
☐ "Primary" (1960)
☐ "The Prisoner of Zenda" (1937)
☐ "Psycho" (1960)
☐ "Raging Bull" (1980)
☐ "Rebel Without a Cause" (1955)
☐ "Red River" (1948)
☐ "Ride the High Country" (1962)
☐ "Star Wars" (1977)

Dustin Hoffman (right) and Jon Voight in "Midnight Cowboy"

☐ "The River" (1937)
☐ "Salesman" (1969)
☐ "Salt of the Earth" (1954)
☐ "The Searchers" (1956)
☐ "Shadow of a Doubt" (1943)
☐ "Shadows" (1959)
☐ "Shane" (1953)
☐ "Sherlock, Jr." (1924)
☐ "Singin' in the Rain" (1952)
☐ "Some Like It Hot" (1959)
☐ "Sullivan's Travels" (1941)
☐ "Sunrise" (1927)
☐ "Sunset Boulevard" (1950)
☐ "Sweet Smell of Success" (1957)
☐ "Tevye" (1939)
☐ "Top Hat" (1935)
☐ "Touch of Evil" (1958)
☐ "The Treasure of the Sierra Madre" (1948)
☐ "Trouble in Paradise" (1932)
☐ "2001: A Space Odyssey" (1968)
☐ "Vertigo" (1958)
☐ "What's Opera, Doc?" (1957)
☐ "Where Are My Children?" (1916)
☐ "The Wind" (1928)
☐ "Within Our Gates" (1920)
☐ "The Wizard of Oz" (1939)
☐ "A Woman Under the Influence" (1974)
☐ "Yankee Doodle Dandy" (1942)

Taking part in Halloween festivities in "Meet Me in St. Louis"

NATIONAL FILM REGISTRY
of the Library of Congress

Cachao (left) plunks the bass with Nelson Gonzales on *tres* (front center), Rafael "Felo" Barrio on the *guiro* (a serrated gourd), Roberto Carrero on congas, Mario Rivera on tenor sax, Alfredo "Chocolate" Armenteros on trumpet and Edwin Bonilla on timbales. *Photos by Yusef El-Amin*

The Mambo King Plays Songs at the Library

by Carroll L. Johnson

Raising Washington's 86 degree temperature above the boiling point with his Cuban music, Epic recording artist Israel López, better known as Cachao, performed six selections and an encore for a crowd of more than 1,000 at the Jefferson Building's Neptune Plaza.

The Library's American Folklife Center and the Hispanic Division, in partnership with Crescent Moon and Epic Records, presented Cachao and His Orchestra. The Sept. 15 concert concluded the 1994 American Folklife Center Neptune Plaza Concert Series and kicked off LC's celebration of National Hispanic Heritage Month.

As Cachao warmed up his black and red bass for the concert, he was oblivious to the buzzing of the crowd. The plaza was filled to capacity 20 minutes before the concert began. A couple from the San Francisco Bay area said they had rearranged their vacation just to hear Cachao perform.

Lawrence Appelbaum, senior studio engineer in the Motion Picture, Broadcasting and Recorded Sound Division, worked with Thea Austen, public events coordinator in the American Folklife Center, to bring Cachao to the Library. Ms. Austen solicited a $7,000 contribution from Epic Recpords to underwrite the concert.

Cachao opened with the self-titled "Cachao," which featured a bass solo and improvisation accompanied by piano, *tres* (Cuban-style acoustic guitar), conga drums, gourd and scraper and vocals. The enthusiastic audience clapped to the beat, and when Cachao performed the much

anticipated "El Mambo," couples sprang up from the crowd to dance.

As he introduced the sixth song, Cachao joked: "This next selection, 'Chambelona,' belonged to the age when Moses was around." But before the band could begin to play, the audience sang "Happy Birthday" to the bandleader, who had turned 76 the day before.

Members of Cachao's orchestra were Alfredo "Chocolate" Armenteros on trumpet; Edwin Bonilla on timbales; Rafael "Felo" Barrio on *guiro* (a serrated gourd) and vocals; Roberto Carrero on congas; Nelson Gonzales on *tres*, Rene Lorentes on flute; Nelson Moreno on trombone; Mario Rivera on tenor sax; Daniel Palacios on vocals; and Alfredo Valdes Jr. on piano.

Born into a family of professional musicians in Havana on Sept. 14, 1918, Israel López, arranger, composer and player of the bass, *tres*, bongo, trumpet, celeste and piano, has played a pioneering role in the development of Cuban music for almost 60 years.

By the late 30s, according to New York ethnomusicologist Morton Marks, the Afro-Cubanizing of the *danzón* (a late-19th-century Cuban dance and instrumental music with roots in 18th century Europe) and the *charanga* orchestra that played it was formed.

At age 19, Cachao and his brother Orestes had created a variation on a *danzón* composition called mambo that debuted in 1938 over the radio station Mil Diez. According to Mr. Marks, the mambo seems to have originated as a series of syncopated *guajeos*, or riffs, on Cachao's bass, based on Afro-Cuban rhythmic patterns in combination with a European musical form. The mambo has been called the perfect illustration of the process of creolization, or the intermingling of European and African musical approaches.

In 1957, Cachao and some of the best musicians from Havana clubs revolutionized Cuban music by producing a series of after-hours recordings that have become textbooks for Latin musicians. These are called *descargas*, or Cuban jam sessions, that opened up the highly structured format of Cuban music to solos and improvisation.

Cachao left Cuba in 1962 with his wife and baby daughter, and moved to New York, where he played in and influenced some of the city's most famous salsa bands. Later, Cachao fell on hard times and slipped into relative obscurity, playing birthday parties and weddings.

During the past two years, Cachao's music has had a resurgence, and he has received worldwide public acceptance. This was evident following his concert at the Neptune Plaza, when hundreds of autograph seekers descended upon him. Andy Garcia, the Cuban-born actor of "The Godfather, Part III," participated in the resurgence by producing a feature-length documentary film, "Cachao: Como Su Ritmo No Hay Dos" ("Cachao: Like His Rhythm There Is No Other"). Taking Garcia's lead, recording artist Gloria Estefan and her husband, record producer Emilio Estefan, signed Cachao to their record label, Crescent Moon. Just released is a new CD, "Cachao: Master Sessions, Vol. I," which traces the origins of the Afro-Cuban style, beginning with the slow-paced, traditional *danzón* and continuing with spicier *descargas*. "I hope that people young and old will buy our new recording and fall in love with our music," said Cachao's *tres* player Nelson Gonzales.

After the concert, the staff of the Folklife Center and other well wishers gave Cachao an impromptu birthday celebration in the Montpelier Room in the Madison Building.

—Carroll Johnson is a communications specialist in the Public Affairs Office.

A pair of concert-goers cuts the granite as Cachao's impeccable rhythm fills the Neptune Plaza of the Jefferson Building.

Ephemera to Rarities:

Hispanic Division Is Bountiful in Brasiliana

by Iêda Siqueira Wiarda

It is no exaggeration to say that the Library has one of the most diverse and extensive Brazilian collections outside of Brazil itself.

What is less well known is that this collection contains many items not found anywhere else in the world. For example, Madison Council member John E. Velde Jr. recently donated *Velasci Ferdinandi utriusique consulti illustrissimi regis Portugallie* (1488), the first printed account of the Portuguese discoveries.

Many of the works that Thomas Jefferson sold to Congress in 1815 to form the core of the Library's early holdings demonstrate his interest in Iberia and Latin America. It is likely that he consulted with a close friend, the Abbé Correia da Serra, a Portuguese scholar, when purchasing books on Portuguese subjects.

The Abbé visited Monticello regularly from 1813 until 1820. Father Peter Babad's *A Portuguese and English Grammar* (1820), the first such publication in America, was dedicated to Correia da Serra and is in the Libary's collections on microfilm.

Among materials in the collections, there is evidence that early Brazilian independence leaders in the late 1700s tried to enlist Jefferson's support for their cause. A basic reference work on Brazilian history, the *Grande Enciclopédia Delta larousse*, mentions meetings among Jefferson, U.S. ambassador to France at the time, and some of those leaders. Historians Isolde Brans and Kenneth Maxwell debated possible links between Jefferson and the Brazilian independence leaders in a September 1993 conference at the Library called "Thomas Jefferson and the Independence Movements in the Americas."

Everette Larson and AT&T Fellow Carmen Enciso (right) assist readers in the Hispanic Reading Room. *Photos by Jim Higgins*

The Hispanic Division itself presents a Brazilian face to all users. Brazil's Cândido Portinari, whose murals grace the United Nations building in New York, spent most of 1941 creating a set of murals that enliven the division's foyer. These murals depict Brazil's discovery by the Portuguese and the expansion of Lusophone [Portuguese] America. Even though the murals were largely financed by the Rockefeller

Foundation and the Brazilian government under then dictator Getulio Vargas, they clearly indicate Portinari's ideological commitment to portraying the common man. Thus the murals show sailors rather than admirals, priests rather than bishops, *bandeirantes* (pioneers) rather than generals.

Another important part of the collection is the Archive of Hispanic Literature on Tape. In 1976 the Hispanic Division benefited from the visit of Daniel J. Boorstin, former Librarian of Congress, to Brazil, when several authors were recorded for the archive. With 82 recordings, Brazilians comprise the largest group of authors in the archive. Among them are former Brazilian president and author José Sarney, novelist Jorge Amado, poet Carlos Drummond de Andrade and the current director of the Biblioteca Nacional in Rio de Janeiro, the poet Affonso Romano de Sant'Anna. The most recent taping was made last spring, when José Mindlin delivered a lecture at the Library.

Mr. Mindlin, an entrepreneur and bibliophile, owner of one the best private libraries in Latin America, captivated the audience of scholars, diplomats and librarians. During the past four years, he and his wife, Guita Kaufman Mindlin, president of the Brazilian Association for Binding and Restoration, have donated many rare publications to the Library.

Events sponsored by the Hispanic Division have often resulted in publications. A recent example is Gloria Kaiser's trilingual (Portuguese, English, German) *Thomas Ender: Expedição ao Brasil, 1817,* published this year by ADEVA. This volume was the product of a fall 1993 seminar on the Austrian watercolor painter who lived in Brazil in 1817–18, sponsored by the Austrian Cultural Institute of New York, the Austrian-Brazilian Cultural Initiative and the Library of Congress. Similarly, Maria Werneck de Castro's "Botanical Iconography: Brazilian Flora on the Verge of Extinction," the subject of an April 1994 lecture and monthlong exhibition of her watercolors in the Jefferson Building, became the subject of an article in the Organization of American States' journal, *Americas.*

Outstanding Brazilian holdings are also in the Music Division and the American Folklife Center. These materials emphasize Brazil's unique culture, with its Native American, Portuguese and African roots. The Folklife Center also has one of the best collections of *literatura de cordel,* pamphlets that depict popular mythical heroes. One of these slim and often crude publications links Lampião, Northeast Brazil's Robin Hood, to John F. Kennedy in his martyrdom for the common people. Much of this *cordel* collection was obtained at local fairs by the Library's Rio de Janeiro Office.

The opening of the Rio Office transformed the acquisition of publications from Brazil. In 1966, its first year of operation, the rate of the Library's Brazilian acquisitions quadrupled. More than half of the Rio Office's acquisitions have been from noncommercial sources.

Today, a wider range of materials from the region is available at the Library. For example, in 1987 the Rio Office acquired *Pesquisa "Brasil nunca mais" (Investigation "Brazil, Never Again"),* one of a limited edition of 25 copies detailing human rights abuses during the 1960s and '70s. State and municipal maps have further enriched the collections, and legal materials have made the Law Library the largest depository of Brazilian legislation in the United States. A project to acquire and preserve ephemeral materials, called Brazil's Popular Groups, has resulted in four microfilm collections to date. This project provides a rich source for researchers examining the Brazilian transition to democracy.

Another rich resource is the approximately 20 Brazilian newspapers the Library receives regularly. Many of them arrive on microfilm through a cooperative effort with the Biblioteca Nacional in Rio.

Reflecting Brazil's multicultural society, the Library has acquired

Barbara Tenenbaum (left), intern Consol Garcia and Junior Fellow Kia Shante Lilly help reduce arrearages among the Hispanic serials.

Interns Jessica Siciliano and Leo Lucini help automate the *Handbook*.

serials from Brazil in German, Japanese, English, Italian and other languages besides Portuguese. An entire set of a rare serial, *Jornal Popular*, was donated by its editor. The publication documents politics in the Amazon region. The Library is also augmenting its holdings on Brazilian Americans, with publications such as *The Brasilians*, from New York City.

By cooperating with the Brazilian Embassy and the Brazilian American Cultural Institute, the division has obtained several publications not commercially available, such as the pamphlet "Brazil in Brief," which has become a popular handout for the division's researchers. The pamphlet is being updated using, in some cases, materials found in the Library's collections such as the 38 books written by newly elected President Fernando Henrique Cardoso.

At times, international events in Brazil spur the acquisition of unusual items. Thus the Library obtained a large number of posters and newsletters focusing on the environment that were produced for the "Earth Summit," held in Rio de Janeiro in 1992. Sen. Albert Gore, now vice president, prepared for his appearance at the summit with assistance from the Hispanic Division.

Contributing editors to the *Handbook of Latin American Studies*, which is edited in the division, advise the staff about acquisitions. The contributors also routinely donate materials they have obtained in Brazil.

Contributing editors, readers and Hispanic Division staff all share their expertise. For example, this summer a student researching the African roots of Brazilian culture gained access to unprocessed materials on the subject that were uncovered by an intern in the division. Currently, a Brazilian graduate student at Howard University is using the collections for evidence of Bantu influence on the Portuguese spoken in her country.

Thus the Library continues to expand its holdings of Brasiliana. It is easy to understand why in Brazil and elsewhere the Library is perceived as an immensely rich and growing depository of multifaceted Brazilian culture.

—Iêda Siqueira Wiarda is the Luso-Brazilian specialist in the Hispanic Division.

Saundra Quintanilla (seated left), Dolores Martin, Georgette Dorn, Iêda Siqueira Wiarda, Edmundo Flores, Luz Yabar (standing left), Amy Puryear, Ann Mulrane, John Hébert, Barbara Tenenbaum, Everette Larson, Sue Mundell and Tracy North are on the Hispanic Division staff.

Authors and Scholars Tout Hispanic Treasure Trove

"Although one hesitates to publicize the location of a treasure, I must add my name to the list of the Hispanic Division patrons who declare that there is no finer place on earth to study United States-Latin American relations," wrote Lars Schoultz in his book *Latin America, the United States and the Inter-American System* (1980).

A professor at the University of North Carolina, Mr. Schoultz is the author of six books, a former president of the Latin American Studies Association and currently a Woodrow Wilson Fellow.

Since it first opened its doors in 1939, the Hispanic Division has attracted a steady stream of scholars from around the world. Mario Vargas Llosa, noted Peruvian novelist and former presidential candidate, found the Hispanic Division's help crucial in locating contemporary newspapers for his award-winning historical novel *The War of the End of the World* (1984).

Nicaraguan poet Pablo Antonio Cuadra, a Guggenheim scholar in the Hispanic Reading Room, believes that the Library performs the "functions of a national library for many Latin American countries."

This year the reading room hosted Getty scholar Margarita Gutman, Mexican Fulbright film historian Angel Miquel and Venezuelan Fulbright scholar María Elena González, as well as Organization of American States grantees Clara Alicia Bertranou and Carlos Nahum, both from the University of Mendoza, Argentina.

Donna Guy, a professor of history and former director of the Latin American Studies Center at the University of Arizona, found "an incredible number of rare items on women and children in early 20th century Latin America in the Hispanic collections."

Maria-Leonor Ramos Bates of the Brazilian Embassy (seated right) is joined by Iêda Siqueira Wiarda, Georgette Dorn (standing right), Senior Bibliographer Rey Aguirre (center) and Leo Lucini.

Scholars are often asked to make presentations at the Library about their research. Oxford-trained historian Edgardo Krebs spoke on Nov. 16 about "Indian Rights in the New Argentine Constitution," and Universidad Complutense scholar Ana Planet spoke about the "Muslim Populations of Spain" on Nov. 22.

Hispanic Division Chief Georgette Dorn attributes the division's allure for world-class scholars to the "fantastic breadth and depth of our Hispanic collections, carefully nurtured by our excellent recommending and acquisitions specialists since the days of Lewis Hanke," first chief of the Hispanic Division, from 1939 to 1951.

Hanke brought to the Library the *Handbook of Latin American Studies*, an annual, annotated, scholarly bibliography in the humanities and social sciences. Prepared in the Hispanic Division since 1939, with the help of 120 contributing editors, the *Handbook* has been on-line since 1990. According to Editor Dolores Moyano Martin, in 1996, thanks to generous grants from the Andrew Mellon Foundation, the Fundación Mapfre América of Madrid, and a bequest from the four children of Lewis Hanke, the first 49 volumes of the *Handbook* will be digitized and made available over the Internet.

Dr. Dorn points out that the division focuses not only on assisting world-class scholars but also on "future luminaries," whom the division tries to attract by organizing briefings for graduate students, which are delivered by Hispanic Reading

Room Head Everette Larson.

Academic internships are another method of attracting scholars. The American Telephone & Telegraph Co. underwrites one paid summer fellowship, and this year's AT&T fellow, Carmen Enciso, is compiling the book *Hispanics in Congress 1822–1994.*

The division hosted a multicultural group of 16 summer interns who worked on processing the backlog (arrearages) of Hispanic serials. These interns also worked on the *Handbook,* in the reading room or on bibliographies.

Madison Junior Fellow Kia Shante Lilly, a doctoral student at the University of Texas at Austin, worked with arrearages and was guided by Mexican Specialist Barbara Tenenbaum and Luso-Brazilian Specialist Iêda Siqueira Wiarda.

Consol García from the University of Barcelona Library School in Catalonia, Spain, worked in the reading room and with Cuban folk recordings.

Argentine graduate students Victoria Granillo and Teresita Baravalle assisted the *Handbook* staff, along with Peruvian Luz Yabar from George Mason University in Virginia, Susana Fernández of Uruguay and Spanish historian Clotilde Puértolas, sister of award-winning Spanish novelist Soledad Puértolas.

Nicole Slaughter and Tanisha Stephen, interns from the University of Virginia, worked in the Hispanic reading room.

Brazilian doctoral candidate Beatriz Bitarello from the University Juiz de Fora helped Dr. Wiarda with her Brazilian projects.

Sponsored by the Upward Bound Program, Jorge Cervantes came from Los Angeles to work on the *Handbook.*

Work-study employees and students from the District of Columbia Mayor's Summer Employment Program were Leo Lucini, Jessica Siciliano, Diego Durán and Kennia Alvarez.

Importance of Mexican Elections for U.S. Is Subject of Division Lecture

"Despite the Americanization of electoral processes worldwide, Mexico, our closest neighbor, remains without a change of party control at the national, executive level," where the nation is essentially a one-party state run by the Institutional Revolutionary Party (PRI).

So said Roderic Ai Camp, a political science professor at Tulane University, during an Oct. 6 discussion at the Library sponsored by the Hispanic Division.

"The irony of this has not been lost on political observers," he added during the Oct. 6 discussion of the August 1994 Mexican presidential elections and their significance for the United States.

Mr. Camp opened the session with his paper, "Battling for the Voter, Mexico's Path to Democracy." He argued that the United States' considerable influence over Mexico is diluted by its southern neighbor's strong nationalism. Only one national party is viable there.

He noted further that events such as the Jan. 1 revolt in Chiapas state (a peasant uprising that occurred on the day the North American Free Trade Agreement went into effect) and the March assassination of PRI presidential candidate Luis Donaldo Colosio combined to overshadow the elections themselves.

Nevertheless, Mr. Camp contended that the elections indicated important changes in Mexican politics as well as continuities. He pointed to the increased strength of the conservative opposition National Action Party (PAN) and the perceived legitimate victory of Institutional Revolutionary Party presidential candidate Ernesto Zedillo in contrast to the widely accepted "fraudulent" triumph of his predecessor, Carlos Salinas de Gortari.

Yet he stressed that the PRI remains the only national party capable of fielding candidates acceptable to the nation as a whole.

Nora Lustig, senior fellow at the Brookings Institution, and Judith Gentleman, a visiting professor at Air University at Maxwell Air Force Base, Ala., both served as observers during the August elections. During the discussion they agreed with Mr. Camp that the elections were generally honest, despite occasional instances of fraud.

According to Ms. Lustig, the success of the past six years of economic reforms, including a substantial reduction in the inflation rate, considerably helped the PRI, as did the revolt in Chiapas.

Ms. Gentleman pointed out that analysts had not yet provided a satisfactory explanation for PAN candidate Diego Fernández de Cevallos's lackluster campaign following the debate he "won" so convincingly against Zedillo and Cuauhtemoc Cárdenas of the left-wing opposition Democratic Revolutionary Party.

She also worries about Mexico's future, pointing to the growing power of drug lords in Mexico, a phenomenon referred to as "Colombianization."

A question-and-answer session followed in which none of the speakers was willing to venture an explanation for the Sept. 28 assassination of the Secretary General of the PRI, José Francisco Ruiz Massieu, in downtown Mexico City.

Nevertheless, everyone who attended the symposium agreed that Mexico seemed headed toward the fulfillment of the famous Chinese curse of "living in interesting times."

—Barbara A. Tenenbaum

Barbara Tenenbaum is the Hispanic Division's specialist in Mexican culture.

'In the Beginning Was the Word':
New Exhibition Shows Russian Church's Influence in Alaska

Russian explorers Vitus Bering and Aleksei Chirikov reached the Aleutian Islands and Alaska in 1741, bringing the pioneering fur-trading *promyshlenniki* in their wake. A decade after founding the first Alaskan settlement on Kodiak Island, Grigorii Shelekhov persuaded Tsarina Catherine the Great in 1794 to establish an Orthodox mission in Alaska. When Tsar Paul I gave the trade monopoly to Shelekhov's Russian American Co. in 1799, he inseparably linked church, state and trade in Russian America.

"In the Beginning Was the Word: The Russian Church and Native Alaskan Cultures" is a Library exhibition that commemorates the 200th anniversary of the first Russian Orthodox mission on Kodiak Island. On Sept. 28 President Clinton and President Boris Yeltsin of Russia officially opened the exhibition (see LC *Information Bulletin*, Oct. 17).

Between the lines of official correspondence of the tsars, ecclesiastical reports and humble devotional books painstakingly handwritten in Russian, Aleut, Eskimo or Tlingit, "In the Beginning Was the Word" reveals the personal relationships among Russian priests and the Native Alaskan peoples in 1794–1915.

Eskimo families from Port Clarence, Alaska, typify the natives with whom the Russian Orthodox Church worked during its dominance in 1784–1867. *Photos from the Prints and Photographs Division*

"Crown and Commerce in Russian America," which opens the exhibition, deals with the early period, the era of the *promyshlenniki*, those pioneers and fur traders who exploited the natural riches of the tsars' remote colony. Under the long, stable rule of Shelekhov's colonial administrator, Alexander Baranov, from 1790 to 1818, the Russian American Co. financed the church, while the church educated and often defended Native Alaskans—sometimes in opposition to the company's practices. Even after the purchase of Alaska by the United States in 1867, which started a new era of commercial endeavor, the special relation of Alaskan peoples to Russian Orthodoxy lives on.

The Russian monarchs' interest in the Native peoples appears in a number of documents, including a 1794 order by Catherine II to "civilize and Christianize Americans" and a handwritten 1859 exhortation by Alexander II urging the Bishop of Novoarkhangelsk (Sitka) to win more converts.

The meticulous 1802 map of Alaska prepared by the Tsar's cartographers contrasts pointedly with a brassier American map of 1897 advertising Plug Cut Tobacco.

The exhibition follows the story from sporadic early attempts to Christianize the Natives through the establishment of the first mission on Kodiak Island in 1794. Five years later, Alaska had its first bishop. Transfer of the capital to Novoarkhangelsk (Sitka) in 1808 led, by 1848, to the construction of the Cathedral of St. Michael. During the next generation, the Bishop of Kamchatka, the Kuril and Aleutian islands and Alaska presided over the "Golden Age" of the Orthodox

Church in the region. The church's influence, however, faded with the competition from other churches.

The "Russian Orthodox Church and Native Alaskans" section of the exhibition details the spiritual work of the church. Hardy priests traveled vast distances over forbidding terrain and in harsh weather to serve widely dispersed parishes. Frustrated by inadequate resources and flocks that periodically scattered to hunt and fish, the missionaries also encountered the lingering allure of the old Native religions—to them, "paganism." Triumphs include the "miracle" of "Mad Stefan," a Native youth reputedly cured of violent insanity when he was baptized in 1846.

"Changing Native Mores" shows how the church's effort to Christianize and educate the Native Alaskans inevitably led to a deep involvement in their daily lives. Using persuasion and example rather than coercion, the Russian clergy discouraged slavery and suicide, as well as heavy drinking, smoking and gambling. Educating, even sometimes "adopting" Native and Creole (Native-Russian) children, the priests were sometimes asked to import brides to remote areas worried about excessive inbreeding. Unavoidably, the clergy became arbiters of neighborhood disputes.

"Shamanism and Christianity" highlights the central conflict between the proselytizing church and the traditional Native religion. In some cases, priests arrived at remote parishes only to discover that their flock had reverted to the old beliefs during their absence. Often, however, priest and shaman coexisted in not-unfriendly rivalry. Practices of the animistic Native religion included mummification of important persons and reverence for totems representing patron animals or plants.

"Native Education" reflects the secondary mission of the Russian clerics. From the start, new schools trained Native and Creole students for careers in commerce, the church and the military with a bilingual approach that was sensitive to the survival of Native culture. Establishment in 1841 of an Alaskan seminary led to a well-educated class of multilingual graduates to serve both church and state. By contrast, the American system (after 1885 under General Agent of Education in Alaska Sheldon Jackson, a Presbyterian minister) mandated teaching of English only and generally discouraged multiculturalism.

Sometimes called "Paul Bunyan in a Cassock," Father Innokentii was bishop of Alaska in 1840.

"Preserving Native Languages" displays the remarkable achievement of Russian America in maintaining traditional tongues, and with them, cultures. The 1,200-word, six-language dictionary compiled by a Russian American Co. official in 1805 is an early highlight of this effort. The heroic Father Ioann Veniaminov, celebrated as "Paul Bunyan in a Cassock," looms large in the multilingual approach, devising an alphabet for the Aleut language and in 1834 using it to produce an Aleut catechism, the first book published in an Alaskan Native language.

Later, as Bishop Innokentii, he encouraged such disciples as the Creole priest Iakov Netsvetov to study other Native languages and dialects. Netsvetov's neatly written Russian-Aleut dictionary, with 26 sections of

Priests hire a dogsled at great expense to traverse their territories, which spanned more than 100 square miles.

special terms in fields ranging from religion and astronomy to humanity and commerce, is an impressive monument to this work. A touching memento is a child's handwritten psalm book with pages of practice penmanship.

Donated to the Library in 1927 and supplemented in 1940 and 1943, the 87,000-item Alaskan Russian Church Archives was cataloged in 1979 in compliance with the Alaskan Claims Act. In 1993 Dr. Billington requested the prominent linguist Vyacheslav V. Ivanov, a member of the Library's Council of Scholars and professor of Slavic literature at Moscow University and the University of California at Los Angeles, to evaluate the archives and select items for the bicentennial exhibition.

Exhibition Director Andrew J. Cosentino of the Interpretive Programs Office helped structure the exhibit, choosing display items from Dr. Ivanov's selections for aesthetic considerations and producing the text, labels and brochure based on Dr. Ivanov's concepts. When Dr. Cosentino previewed the display to a national delegation of pan-Orthodox bishops, including the Metropolitan of the Orthodox Church in America, they were "thrilled with the objects displayed."

A shaman exorcising evil spirits from a sick boy.

Curatorial Assistant Vera W. De Buchananne, a copyright cataloger in music and drama, brought to the task both a Russian and an Orthodox background, along with experience helping catalog the collection in 1980 to facilitate the Native Alaskan Claims Act. Her translations of the documents supplemented Dr. Ivanov's and were the basis for the labels.

"For me personally, the highlight was the work done on Native languages by the Russian priests," said Dr. Ivanov, noting especially the endeavor to translate cultural concepts—such as a Christian idea like "soul"—into the idioms of very different cultures.

Dr. Ivanov also points to "an interesting attempt to build a multilingual and multicultural society." He finds no substantial conflict among the different cultures, citing the example of a shaman rescued from irate villagers by his ostensible rival, a Russian priest. The priests studied the shamans not as enemies, but with scholarly interest, much as scientists today might approach extrasensory phenomena.

With only two variants of the Eskimo language group surviving today, Dr. Ivanov especially appreciates the preservation of the old tongues in the glossaries, dictionaries and parallel religious texts of the collection.

Relationships—from the priest rescuing his rival shaman, to the czar ordering the bishop to win more converts, to the missionaries teaching the meaning of "soul"—are the hallmark of the work of the Russian Church with Native Alaskan peoples.

Tlingit Chief Kasheesh standing by his totem in Ketchikan around 1900. The Tlingits were the hardest to convert.

It was thus fitting that, during the exhibition's ribbon-cutting, President Yeltsin tucked pieces of the red ribbon into the breast pockets of President Clinton and himself—testimony to the current improved relations between Russia and the United States.

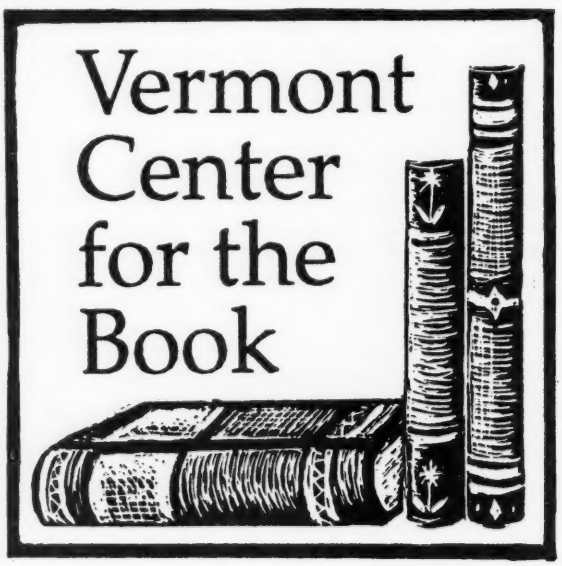
"In the Beginning Was the Word: The Russian Church and Native Alaskan Cultures" is on view through Dec. 31 in the Madison Building Foyer, 8:30 a.m.–9:30 p.m. Monday through Friday and 8:30 a.m. to 6 p.m. on Saturday.

—Steven J. Ackerman

Steven Ackerman is a Washington freelance writer.

News from the Center for the Book:
Vermont Receives Science Grant for "Mother Goose"

The National Science Foundation has awarded $515,780 to the Vermont Center for the Book for "Mother Goose Asks, 'Why?,'" a program that brings Vermonters who care for and work with preschool children a chance to enjoy science through books and book-related activities.



During the next three years, the Vermont Center for the Book, the Montshire Museum of Science and Vermont's other science activity centers will hold workshops for professionals and four-part book discussion and science activity programs for parents. These experiences will encourage publications that show libraries, science centers, family literacy programs and others across the country how to bring "Mother Goose Asks, 'Why?'" to their communities.

Participants in the four sessions of a "Mother Goose" program begin by examining works of children's literature such as *Who Sank the Boat?* and *Two Bad Ants* for the science lessons the books contain. Through discussion and experiments they learn the importance of helping children understand that scientific inquiry is not only enjoyable but also part of everyday living.

For more information about the program, call Wendy Martin at the Vermont Center for the Book, (802) 875–2751, or write her at P.O. Box 441, Chester, VT 05143.

☐ **Caxton Club Promotes Center for the Book Publications.** The June 1994 issue of "Caxtonian: A Newsletter of the Caxton Club of Chicago" praised two Center for the Book publications: John Cole's *Jefferson's Legacy: A Brief History of the Library of Congress* (1993) and Alice D. Schreyer's *The History of the Book: A Guide to Selected Resources in the Library of Congress* (1987). Each book is still available in the LC Sales Shop and by mail. *Jefferson's Legacy* is $9.50; *The History of the Book* is $15. If ordering by mail, add $5 for postage and handling. Orders should be sent to the Library of Congress, Sales Shop, Washington, DC 20540–5240. Credit card orders may be placed by phone at (202) 707–0204.

☐ **Center Hosts the Coalition for Literacy.** On Aug. 15 the Center for the Book hosted a dinner at the Library of Congress for the Coalition for Literacy, one of the center's 135 national organizational partners. Director John Cole briefly described the center's current activities and announced that "Shape Your Future—READ!" will be the center's national reading promotion theme for 1995–1996.

☐ **LC at the Washington Antiquarian Bookfair.** The Rare Book and Special Collections Division, the Center for the Book and the LC Sales Shop participated in the second annual Washington International Antiquarian Book Fair, held Sept. 9–11 at the Andrew Mellon Auditorium in Washington. James Gilreath of the Rare Book and Special Collections Division was one of the conference organizers; Center for the Book Director John Cole was the dinner speaker on Sept. 9; and Neil Schwartz displayed and sold merchandise and books from the LC Sales Shop. More than 90 booksellers from the United States and abroad participated.

☐ **New York Is Book Country 1994.** Program Officer Maurvene D. Williams represented the Center for the Book on Sept. 17 and 18 at the "New York Is Book Country" book fair in New York City. As in past years, the center shared an exhibit booth with the American Library Association and Friends of Libraries USA. A special guest was Gumby, the classic green-clay boy who uses books to find adventure and seek answers to problems, and who will be helping the center promote the national reading promotion theme for 1995–1996.

☐ **Book Development in Russia and the Newly Independent States.** "Challenges Facing the Book Market in the Former Soviet Union" was the theme of the fourth meeting of the

PUBWATCH/Center for the Book Task Force on Book Development in Russia and the Newly Independent States, held at the Library on Sept. 19.

Speakers included Dr. Billington; Kristine Bushnell, Russian Press Service Inc.; Chrystyna Luzyk, East View Publications; Marianna Tax Choldin, Mortenson Center for International Library Programs, University of Illinois; Charles Getchell, Sabre Foundation; and Tracy Cabanis, Alfred A. Knopf Publishers.

More than 40 people participated in the meeting, which was supported by the U.S. Information Agency. Several members of the Library of Congress-Soros Foundation Visiting Fellows Program were special guests and contributed to the meeting by describing the state of publishing in their countries.

☐ **Fourth Annual Nebraska Literature Festival.** Maurvene Williams was a speaker on Sept. 23 at "Go Big Read," the fourth annual Nebraska Literature Festival, which was sponsored by the Nebraska Center for the Book, the University of Nebraska at Omaha and the Nebraska Humanities Council.

Author readings, workshops, musical performances, storytelling and a special high school day were highlights of the three-day festival, along with a performance of "Free Speech for Me But Not for Thee," a play originally sponsored by the Iowa Center for the Book in Des Moines.

☐ **Women's National Book Association Award.** On Oct. 26 the Center for the Book hosted an awards program at the Library with the Women's National Book Association (WNBA), one of the center's national reading promotion partners. Janet Palmer Mullaney, editor and publisher of *Belles Lettres: A Review of Books by Women,* received the 1994 WNBA award for her distinguished service to the world of books. To honor the recipient, author Faye Moskowitz gave a brief reading from her book *A Leak in the Heart.*

Elaine Johnson of the Nebraska Center for the Book listens as Maurvene Williams of the Center for the Book in the Library of Congress speaks at the "Go Big Read" festival.

Library of Congress Memberships Available: *Includes Subscription to* Civilization *Magazine*

Associate membership in the Library of Congress, which includes a year's subscription to *Civilization: The Magazine of the Library of Congress,* is available for annual dues of $20 (see LC *Information Bulletin,* May 2, 1994).

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Information Bulletin 84LC01

New Calendars Draw on the Library's Diverse Collections

Calendars featuring the wide-ranging collections of the Library have been released for 1995. Produced cooperatively by the Library and Pomegranate Publications, Rohnert Park, Calif., the calendars draw on the Library's collections to illuminate and illustrate different facets of art, cartography, ethnography, social history, literature and music.

The full-color wall calendars, with a different image for every month, cover subjects from Native Americans to Art Nouveau posters to the Civil War, while the three spiral-bound desk calendars highlight children's book illustration and literary people and events.

All of the calendars are printed on heavy-weight, glossy stock and are now available in the Library's Madison Sales Shop as well as from bookstores and other calendar retailers. Bulk orders and general inquiries can be made directly to Pomegranate Calendars & Books, (800) 227-1428.

The titles of the calendars are:

☐ "The Civil War"—fourth in a series, featuring more than 40 full-color and duotone illustrations, 20 to 30 historical entries for each month and continuing excerpts from the diaries of John Yates Beall, a Confederate soldier, and Lawrence Van Alstyne, a Union infantryman. This edition of "The Civil War" also includes a 15"x20" poster suitable for framing (13"x12"; $11.95).

☐ "Alphonse Mucha"—a rich sampling of the poster and book illustration work of Mucha (1860–1939), one of the finest and best-known practitioners of the Art Nouveau style, including the 1894 Sarah Bernhardt poster that launched his career (12"x12"; $10.95).

☐ "The American Cowboy"—an artful gathering of images that convey both the realities and myths of one of America's most enduring and romanticized symbols. This sampling of some of the most striking cowboy images from the Library's collections includes photos from the J.C.H. Grabill and Farm Security Administration collections (12"x12"; $9.95).

☐ "Edward S. Curtis: Portraits of Native Americans"—second in a series, the calendar features 12 evocative photo reproductions taken by Curtis as he compiled his monumental work *The North Ameri-*

can Indian (1907–1930). The visual power and humanity of Curtis's subjects suffuse the images in this monthly calendar, which also contains important events in Native American history (12"x12"; $10.95).

☐ "A Literary Companion"–fourth in a series, this popular and informative collection of biographical essays and historic photographs features 12 notable writers, from Ivan Turgenev to Ursula Le Guin. It also includes birthdays of literary figures for each day of the year (12"x12"; $10.95).

☐ "The World of Oscar Wilde"–a gathering of memorabilia, quotations and images of one of the Victorian age's most celebrated and notorious literary geniuses, culled from various collections of the Library of Congress (12"x12"; $10.95).

☐ "Classical Music"–Fourth in a series, the calendar features photographs, manuscripts, instruments and descriptive text relating to the Library's extensive music collections. It includes birthdays and other musical milestones, as well as a selection of pertinent quotes (14"x 16"; $13.95).

☐ "N.C. Wyeth"–a sampling of the art of well-known illustrator N.C. Wyeth, father of Andrew and grandfather of Jamie, who was a powerful and versatile artist in his own right during the first third of the 20th century, from the Library's general collections (12"x12"; $10.95).

☐ "By Any Means Necessary: The Protest Poster in America"–a lively and thought-provoking assemblage of powerful images from the Library's Yanker Poster Collection, celebrating the oldest of American activities: petitioning one's government (and attempting to sway fellow citizens). It also features entries marking significant protests in American history (12"x12"; $10.95).

☐ "Courting Justice: The Evolution of Law"–a wealth of visual imagery from the Law Library and general collections in the Library of Congress that provide an engaging smorgasbord of Western law–its history and development, triumphs and follies–and the unique reflection of societal evolution it embodies. The calendar highlights important events in legal history (13"x12"; $10.95).

☐ "Maps of the Heavens"–second in a series, this oversized art calendar features 12 dazzling 15th and 16th century representations of celestial phenomena in full color from the Library's Rare Book and Special Collections Division (17"x20"; $17.95).

☐ Engagement calendar: "A Literary Companion"–fourth in a popular series featuring an enigmatic-looking Herman Melville on the cover, the "Literary Companion" for 1995 is packed with all-new photographs, quotations, literary lore and dates related to authors, their works and the writing life (6½"x9"; $11.95).

☐ Engagement calendar: "Dreams of Childhood"–a collection of 53 full-color illustrations and excerpts of text from children's books in the Library's collections, from the tender and amusing world of Raggedy Ann creator Johnny Gruelle to the rich realism of Jessie Willcox Smith (6½"x9"; $11.95).

Library Calendars Mark Fourth Year

The Library of Congress's popular calendar series, "A Literary Companion," enters its fourth year with the recent release of wall and desk editions for 1995. Produced cooperatively by the Library and Pomegranate Publications, Rohnert Park, Calif., both calendars feature photographs and biographical profiles of writers who have influenced the course of literary expression.

The calendars are a project of the Center for the Book in the Library of Congress, which was established in 1977 to stimulate public interest in books, reading, literacy and libraries.

In his introduction to the calendars, Center for the Book Director John Y. Cole writes, "Through this Literary Companion, we invite you to discover and rediscover writers new and old, shaping your own future through the melding of their works and ideas with your own."

The wall edition of the calendar (12"x12") features photographic portraits and biographical essays on 12 writers: Julio Cortazar, Edna St. Vincent Millay, Jack London, Ursula Le Guin, F. Scott Fitzgerald, Maya Angelou, Sinclair Lewis, Edna Ferber, Robert Louis Stevenson, Ernie Pyle, Henry Miller and Ivan Turgenev.

The calendar grids highlight birthdays of writers for every day of the year, and an evocative photograph of Edna St. Vincent Millay by Carl Van Vechten adorns the cover.

The spiral-bound engagement calendar (6½"x9"), with a pensive-looking Herman Melville on the cover, includes photos and short profiles of a diverse group of 53 writers, among them Italo Calvino, Flannery O'Connor, Vine Deloria, Christopher Isherwood, Alice Walker, Arna Bontemps and William Wordsworth.

The desk calendar is also packed with quotes, lore and dates related to authors, their works and the writing life.

The wall calendar ($10.95) and the desk/engagement calendar ($11.95) are now available at the Library's Madison Sales Shop at 101 Independence Avenue S.E. and from bookstores and other calendar retailers. Bulk orders and general inquiries about the calendars can be made directly to Pomegranate Publications, toll-free, (800) 227–1428.

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